IN THE CLAIMS:

Sep-05-03

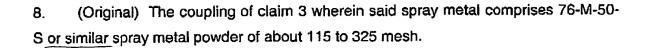
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Please cancel claims 10-23 without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as follows:

- (Original) A sucker rod coupling comprising:
 - (a) a hollow, cylindrical coupling blank fabricated of hardenable metal;
 - (b) a wear layer on an outer surface of said coupling blank; and
 - (c) fully cold formed threads on an inner surface of said coupling blank.
- 2. (Original) The coupling of claim 1, wherein said fully cold formed threads are rolled threads.
- (Original) The coupling of claim 1 wherein said wear layer comprises spray metal heat fused to said outer surface.
- 4. (Original) The coupling of claim 3 wherein said wear layer has a Rockwell hardness of at least 40 HRC.
- 5. (Original) The coupling of claim 3 wherein said wear layer is at least 0.010 inches thick.
- 6. (Original) The coupling of claim 1 wherein said coupling blank is liquid quenched and tempered to a Rockwell hardness of about 27 to 32 HRC.
- 7. (Original) The coupling of claim 3 wherein said wear layer has a surface finish not exceeding 63 μ in $R_{\rm R}$.

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9. (Original) The coupling of claim 1 wherein said coupling blank comprises AISI 8630 or 4130 steel.

10-23. (Cancelled)